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building. Proper supervision was impossible in such an institution. Under the Education Code only 380 boys could go into it, as against its present strength of 600 boys. Many pupils had also been refused admission. A Government site was available and the necessity for a pucka building was imperative. The same was more or less the case with the Kayankulam Elementary School also, for which land had been acquired six years ago. Proper buildings should be constructed for both the institutions and he requested that early action might be taken in the matter.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

126. The raising of the standard of the Lower Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam to the Higher Grade.

Mr. E. N. Kesava Pillai, B. A. (Member, T. I. C., Kayankulam) said that the necessity for a Higher Grade Secondary School was much felt by the people of Kayankulam. The town, on account of its large volume of land trade and the presence of a large number of public offices, was rising in importance. It was situated centrally for the taluks of Karunagappalli, Karthikappalli and Mavelikara. There were at present one Higher Grade and one Lower Grade Secondary School at Mavelikara and a Lower Grade Secondary School at Haripad. There were also Recognised Higher Grade Secondary Schools at Haripad, Mavelikara and Mannar. The Member therefore proposed that the Departmental Higher Grade Secondary School at Mavelikara might be shifted to Kayankulam. The transfer would not seriously affect Mavelikara as there were Recognised Higher Grade Secondary Schools at Mavelikara itself, at Mannar, two miles to the north, and at Haripad, four miles to the west.

A Higher Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam would be more useful to the inhabitants of the Karunagappalli taluk and the northern *pakuthies* of the Kunnathur taluk. Also the existing Lower Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam could be shifted to Karunagappalli, where there was none. There was no building constructed for the school at Mavelikara and no special site need be acquired at Kayankulam.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

127. The need for a Lower Grade Secondary School at Punalur.

Mr. Padmanabhan Parameswaren (Member, Pathanapuram taluk) said that the educationally backward condition of the people of the taluk did not require much expatiation. There could not be found many head-quarters of taluks which had not an English school; but Punalur had none. The need for a school had been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government in the Assembly. It might be said that the school at Kottārakara, which had Railway connection with Punalur, should meet the requirements of the taluk. Within an area of about 60 sq. miles, Kottarakara was the only place where there was a school. At no time, therefore, would there be accommodation for all the boys that might take the trouble of going there. He therefore requested that a Lower Grade Secondary School, with classes up to Form II, should at once be established by the Government at Punalur. There was a salt bankshall building available, now used as the office of the Excise Inspector. That office could, without inconvenience, be shifted to a room in

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the Excise chowkey or in some other place and the building used for the school. In view to stir up the people to realize the value of education and to induce them to send all their children to school, he requested that some fee concessions should also be allowed, at least for some time.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

128. The need for more Government Schools in the taluks of Mooyattupuzha, Thodupuzha and Kunnathnad.

Mr. Tharayathu Kunji Thommen (Member, Moovattupuzha taluk), said that the taluks of Moovattupuzha, Thodupuzha and Kunnathnad were the most backward of all the taluks of the State in point of education. The population of the three taluks amounted to nearly 3 lakhs but there were not even three graduates among them. The educational needs of those taluks were not properly attended to by the Government. He therefore proposed that Lower Grade Secondary Schools, at the rate of one for every 50,000 people, Higher Grade Elementary Schools at the rate of one for every 20,000 people, and Lower Grade Elementary Schools at the rate of one per 100 houses, should be started by the Government at an early date. The want of a sufficient number of pupils in some of the schools in the beginning should not cause the abolition of the schools; but if schools be opened, boys would be coming in, and men like himself would be ready to work for it. The Member also prayed that the Government should not throw upon the inhabitants of those taluks the entire responsibility of finding their buildings for all Lower Grade Elementary Schools, as in other parts of the State. He laid special stress on the urgent need for the immediate opening of a Lower Grade Secondary School for the northern half of the Moovattupuzha taluk. He also requested that, as an incentive to education, some fee concessions might be allowed to the schools in the three taluks, at least for a specified period of years, and when the people took to education readily, the concession might be gradually withdrawn.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The needs of the three taluks are receiving attention. It will not be possible to have a special rate of fees for these schools.

129. The necessity for establishing a Lower Grade Secondary School at Perumbavur.

Mr. Govindan Govindan (Member, Kunnathnad taluk) observed that, of the total population of 1,18,000 in the taluk, 29,000 were children. The proportion of literacy to the total population was three-fourths in 1,000. Kunnathnad was one of the few taluks which had no English school. The Director of Public Instruction, while he recently visited the taluk, expressed himself in favour of opening a Lower Grade Secondary School at Perumbavur. He requested that the Government might be pleased to sanction the school without delay. The people would undertake to find the building for the school.

Dewan's reply.—A school will soon be started at Perumbavur. The matter is under correspondence.

130. The need for a Higher Grade Secondary School at Alwaye.

Mr. M. Kunju Khadir Pillai (Member, Nominated) said that the rapidly rising importance of the town of Alwaye, its daily increasing population, easy access to it by means of boat, cart and the rail, and the proverbial healthiness of the

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